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SENATOR BYARS: Thank you, Senator Beutler, for the guestion. You are right. The department did recognize that they needed to do this, and they did recognize that they could do it through rules and regulations, but they also realized that maybe there So it was the department who took the was a better way. initiative to recognize that we might have a better way of doing and they came to me with the idea that you see in bill So in deference to them and as a compliment to form now. department, they did take the initiative. They could have just added those screenings to rules and regs, not changed the rest of the process at all, not gone from a General Fund or a federal fund scheme to a fee based or negotiated with the insurance companies. But they said this makes good public policy and they brought it to me, so I would like to compliment them for that.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Okay. Then my next question would be this. We're putting the burden, and they shouldn't be resentful of the burden of this additional testing, essentially on the parents in the sense that ultimately, as I understand it, they will have charged back to them the cost of these tests, generally speaking. That being the case, they're going to be...are they, first question, are they already charged back to them the cost of testing those things that are already currently being tested?

SENATOR BYARS: Yes.

SENATOR BEUTLER: Yes, okay. So then they would have charged back to them these additional items as well as those things that are being tested. What is the estimated additional cost to the parents of doing the testing as envisioned by this bill as opposed to what it would have been doing the testing without this bill? And I recognize that this will be a bit of an estimate but I assume we know pretty close.

SENATOR BYARS: I can't give you a dollar amount, Senator, but what happens because of the way that we are writing the bill, the costs are decreased to the parents. The same test is done, the same stick of however they take the...use the...do the testing procedure, there is nothing changing. All that changes is, is how the lab processes the test. The cost to the parents actually goes down, Senator.